

HUJ

Voluntary Service of Armenia

**INTERNATIONAL AND JOINT WORK CAMPS
PROGRAM**

2026



Tour the world: there's no summit as white as Ararat's

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INFO SHEET

Welcome or “Bari Galoust” as we say in Armenia!

MEETING POINT

Armenian volunteers of your work camp will meet you at the airport in case your arrival time is between 8:00 and 00:00 and will take you to the work camp. Please note that if you arrive before the official start date of the work camp, the Armenian volunteers will not be able to pick you up.

If your arrival time is after midnight, you will need to take bus N100 to the center of Yerevan and then proceed to the campsite by taxi, which is affordable. The addresses are mentioned in the project descriptions.

Teenage volunteers will be met and seen off regardless of their arrival time.

After submitting your application and being accepted to the work camp, you will soon receive an email from your camp leader. Please reply promptly.

VISA

Visa-free regime applies for EU and CIS citizens. The updated list of countries that do not require a visa to enter Armenia is available here: <http://mfa.am/en/visa>

WORK

Our work camps have become traditional. Types of work include renovation, ecological, cultural, aesthetic activities, as well as working with children. The work is going to be interesting and varied.

Participants will receive certificates at the end of the work camps.

ACCOMMODATION AND FOOD

Do not worry about sleeping bags, as you will stay in buildings or cottages of the hosting organizations, where beds, mattresses and bedding packs will be provided.

In Armenian work camps, discipline and organization are important. Making beds and keeping rooms neat and clean daily is mandatory.

Volunteers will prepare food themselves on the principle of duty. You will have the opportunity to taste a variety of traditional Armenian dishes, such as dolma, khorovats (barbecue), kebab, khashlama, as well as the incomparable fruits of the Ararat Valley — apricots, grapes, peaches, apples, as well as berries and vegetables.

LEISURE TIME

Armenia is called an open-air museum. You will have many interesting excursions and visits to historical monuments and museums, organized during the work camp.

Excursions to the following sites will be arranged at the discretion of the work camp, and all visits will be free of charge. The proposed list of excursions includes: Echmiadzin Mother Cathedral, Zvartnots Cathedral ruins, Garni Pagan Temple, Geghard Monastery Complex (with a World Heritage Initiative program), Lake Sevan (including a barbecue on the beach). Volunteers will also visit Matenadaran repository of ancient manuscripts, History Museum of Armenia or National Gallery of Armenia, museum of the famous film director Sergei Parajanov, and Vernissage, a large open-air Armenian souvenir market.

Different games, Armenian dance lessons, and language lessons will also be organized in the work camps. Leisure activities for joint work camps are individual.

WHAT TO BRING WITH YOU

It is very important to bring board games, songbooks, and children's songs to use when working with children and for performances or concerts organized on the last day of the work camp.

During the work camp, volunteers will organize Intercultural Days, where each participant will present his or her country. Please bring photos, booklets describing your country, recipes of national dishes, products and spices, and national songs.

You are welcome to bring musical instruments, prepare a list of your favorite national songs and music, and, of course, bring your high spirit and creativity.

PARTICIPATION FEE

For volunteers from organizations with bilateral exchange with HUI: no fee

For volunteers from organizations without bilateral exchange with HUI: 100 €

For teenage volunteers: 200 € (in work camps with 3 places for teenagers)

Representation of HUI

The Voluntary Service of Armenia – Republican Headquarters of Student Brigades (HUI) was founded in 1965. HUI is a member of the Coordinating Committee of International Voluntary Service (CCIVS) at UNESCO and the Alliance of European Voluntary Service organizations.

HUI organizes volunteer exchanges with partner organizations abroad and maintains a database of 3,000 registered volunteers as of today.

The main activities of HUI are carried out for and with volunteers, mainly young people and students. The regular activities of the organization include exchanging volunteers with different organizations, opening international work camps in Armenia, preparing and sending volunteers to trainings, seminars, and work camps abroad, as well as organizing ESC long-term programs.

The essential aims of the organization are to raise the social competences and employability of youth by organizing activities for national and foreign volunteers in various programs in Armenia, such as work camps, training courses, and medium- and long-term projects. HUI also facilitates the participation of local and national volunteers in similar projects abroad. Additionally, the organization works to support orphans, children with special needs, and socially vulnerable people by proposing activities for and with them, and by making them more visible to local, national and international communities.

ARMENIA

| | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Area | 29.743 sq.km |
| Population | 3.08 mln: Armenians, Ukrainians, Greeks, Kurds, Assyrians, Ezids, Jewish, Georgians, Russians, Polish, and others. |
| Religion | Christianity; Armenia was the first country to adopt Christianity as the state religion in 301. |
| Language | Armenian belongs to Indo-European language family. The alphabet was invented in 405 |
| Time | CET + 3 hours |
| Climate, temperature | Continental, average temperature in summer +25° - +35°C |
| Capital | Yerevan, founded 2800 years ago |
| Lake Sevan | Mountainous sweet water lake is the pearl of Armenia and miracle of nature changes its colors several times a day. The altitude of Lake Sevan is 1,900 m above sea level. |
| Ararat Mountain | Symbol of Armenia - the legendary Bible Mountain Ararat, where Noah's Ark has moored, is the highest top of Armenian Highlands. |
| Currency | Armenian Dram (AMD) Currency exchange rate at the moment of printing the booklet 1 Euro ≈ 440 Dram 1 USD ≈ 380 Dram |
| INFORMATION | To get more information about Armenia, we recommend you to visit the following websites: www.armeniainfo.am www.armenia.com www.armeniapedia.org |

We are looking forward to meeting you soon!

Tel: (+37410) 52 27 88, 52 27 72, 52 27 01

Address: 19A Koryun street, 0009 Yerevan, Armenia

E-mail: huj.projects@gmail.com
huj.coord@gmail.com

Web: www.huj.am

Find us on Facebook: hujarmenia

Instagram: huj_armenia

Work Camp Program Overview

| INTERNATIONAL WORK CAMPS | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| NAME | DATES | TYPE |
| HUJ 1 SMILE TO TREAT I | 29 July – 11 August | KIDS/CULT/ENVI |
| HUJ 2 HOPESHINE I | 30 July – 12 August | RENO/CULT/KIDS |
| HUJ 3 SMILE TO TREAT II | 13 August – 26 August | KIDS/CULT/ENVI |
| HUJ 4 HOPESHINE II | 14 August – 27 August | RENO/CULT/KIDS |

Places for teen volunteers in each work camp.

| JOINT PROJECTS TO CHOOSE BY PARTNERS | | |
|---|---|-------------------------|
| NAME | DATES | TYPE |
| HUJ 5 HELP FOR CHANGE | 12 August – 25 August | KIDS/ENVI |
| HUJ 6 HOPESHINE | April – June or September – December, for 12 days | RENO/CULT/KIDS + scouts |
| HUJ 7 HELP FOR CHANGE | July, for 12 days | KIDS/CULT/ENVI + scouts |

HUJ International Work Camps



HUJ 1

Dates:

Work:

Language:

No. of participants:

SMILE TO TREAT I

29 July – 11 August

KIDS/CULT/ENVI

English

15 volunteers (including 3 teenagers)

Location:

Republican Children Rehabilitation Center, Yerevan

The work camp will be held for the 31st time and has already become very popular and traditional. Every year, the children receiving treatment at the center look forward to meeting the volunteers during the summer.

Volunteers bring ideas, energy, love, warmth, and kindness, making the children's stay at the center a truly memorable experience. They help the children feel valued and encourage them to reveal their talents and abilities.

Work:

The aim of this work camp is to organize the leisure time of a small group of children with disabilities who are receiving treatment at the center, as well as to carry out environmental work on the center's grounds.

Volunteers' day begins with environmental tasks, including maintaining the grounds, cleaning the children's playground from weeds and grass, painting, and some renovation work. After the children finish their therapy, volunteers will engage them in activities such as drawing, sculpting, singing, dancing, physical exercises, and games. At the end of the work camp, volunteers and children will organize a final concert-performance.

Volunteers will receive certificates at the end of the work camp.

Accommodation:

Volunteers will stay in a separate cottage on the territory of the Rehabilitation Center.

Beds, mattresses, and linen will be provided.

Special requirements:

Volunteers are asked to bring various games, face-paint, or other materials to use when working with children.

Participation fee for volunteers from organizations without bilateral exchange with HUJ: 100 €.

For teenage volunteers: 200 €. Teenage volunteers will be met and seen off regardless of their arrival time.

Address: Republican Children Rehabilitation Center, American Street 109, Yerevan.

In Armenian: Հանրապետական Մանկական Վերականգնողական Կենտրոն, Ամերիկյան փողոց, 109 շենք, Երևան.

**HUJ 2**

Dates:

Work:

Language:

No. of participants:

HOPESHINE I

30 July – 12 August

RENO/CULT/KIDS

English

15 volunteers (including 3 teenagers)

Location:*Yerevan School N 14*

This work camp is already very popular and traditional. The school was established in 1939 in Yerevan and is the only one in Armenia where education is organized using the Braille system. Most children live at the school during the school year and return home only for holidays. The school provides secondary education. Between 2014 and 2025, volunteers have renovated classrooms, halls, benches, painted walls, and improved the school territory.

Work:

The aim of this work camp is to carry out renovation tasks, including painting classroom walls, as well as maintaining and improving the school territory to enhance the learning environment for the children.

In the second half of the day, volunteers will play and organize interactive activities with the children.

Volunteers are encouraged to create games and activities, assist the children with learning tasks, and play outdoor games to help develop teamwork and cooperation skills.

At the end of the work camp, volunteers and children will organize a final concert-performance.

Volunteers will receive certificates at the end of the work camp.

Accommodation:

Volunteers will stay in the school dormitories.

Beds, mattresses, and linen will be provided.

Participation fee for volunteers from organizations without bilateral exchange with HUJ: 100 €.

For teenage volunteers: 200 €. Teenage volunteers will be met and seen off regardless of their arrival time.

Address: Mamikonyants street 31, 0051, Yerevan, Armenia

In Armenian: Մամիկոնյանց փողոց 31, 0051, Երևան.

**HUJ 3**

Dates:

Work:

Language:

No. of participants:

SMILE TO TREAT II

13 August – 26 August

KIDS/CULT/ENVI

English

15 volunteers (including 3 teenagers)

Location:*Republican Children Rehabilitation Center, Yerevan*

The work camp will be held for the 32nd time and has already become very popular and traditional. Every year, the children receiving treatment at the center look forward to meeting the volunteers during the summer.

Volunteers bring ideas, energy, love, warmth, and kindness, making the children's stay at the center a truly memorable experience. They help the children feel valued and encourage them to reveal their talents and abilities.

Work:

The aim of this work camp is to organize the leisure time of a small group of children with disabilities who are receiving treatment at the center, as well as to carry out environmental work on the center's grounds.

Volunteers' day begins with environmental tasks, including maintaining the grounds, cleaning the children's playground from weeds and grass, painting, and some renovation work. After the children finish their therapy, volunteers will engage them in activities such as drawing, sculpting, singing, dancing, physical exercises, and games. At the end of the work camp, volunteers and children will organize a final concert-performance.

Volunteers will receive certificates at the end of the work camp.

Accommodation:

Volunteers will stay in a separate cottage on the territory of the Rehabilitation Center.

Beds, mattresses, and linen will be provided.

Special requirements:

Volunteers are asked to bring various games, face-paint, or other materials to use when working with children.

Participation fee for volunteers from organizations without bilateral exchange with HUJ: 100 €.

For teenage volunteers: 200 €. Teenage volunteers will be met and seen off regardless of their arrival time.

Address: Republican Children Rehabilitation Center, American street 109, Yerevan.

In Armenian: Հանրապետական Մանկական Վերականգնողական Կենտրոն, Ամերիկյան փողոց, 109 շենք, Երևան.

**HUJ 4**

Dates:

Work:

Language:

No. of participants:

HOPESHINE II

14 August – 27 August

RENO/CULT/KIDS

English

15 volunteers (including 3 teenagers)

Location:*Yerevan School N 14*

This work camp is already very popular and traditional. The school was established in 1939 in Yerevan and is the only one in Armenia where education is organized using the Braille system. Most children live at the school during the school year and return home only for holidays. The school provides secondary education. Between 2014 and 2025, volunteers have renovated classrooms, halls, benches, painted walls, and improved the school territory.

Work:

The aim of this work camp is to carry out renovation tasks, including painting classroom walls, as well as maintaining and improving the school territory to enhance the learning environment for the children.

In the second half of the day, volunteers will play and organize interactive activities with the children.

Volunteers are encouraged to create games and activities, assist the children with learning tasks, and play outdoor games to help develop teamwork and cooperation skills.

At the end of the work camp, volunteers and children will organize a final concert-performance.

Volunteers will receive certificates at the end of the work camp.

Accommodation:

Volunteers will stay in the school dormitories.

Beds, mattresses, and linen will be provided.

Participation fee for volunteers from organizations without bilateral exchange with HUJ: 100 €.

For teenage volunteers: 200 €. Teenage volunteers will be met and seen off regardless of their arrival time.

Address: Mamikonyants street 31, 0051, Yerevan, Armenia

In Armenian: Մամիկոնյանց փողոց 31, 0051, Երևան.

HUJ Joint Work Camps



HUJ 5

Dates:

Work:

Language:

No. of participants:

HELP FOR CHANGE

12 August – 25 August

KIDS/CULT/ENVI

English

15 volunteers (including 3 teenagers)

Location:

“Village of Hope” district, Yerevan

The Diaconia Charitable Fund is an Armenian NGO established in 1988 by the Armenian Relief Society in Germany to provide humanitarian aid following the devastating earthquake in Armenia. Today, the Fund’s “Village of Hope” carries out social projects, including building homes for families and implementing educational and development initiatives to support socially vulnerable families.

Work:

During the work camp, volunteers will work with children from socially vulnerable families living in the vicinity of the Diaconia Charitable Fund. The main activities include:

- In the morning, volunteers will be involved in maintenance work and territory cleanup;
- After lunch, they will organize cultural development programs for children from socially vulnerable families, such as singing, dancing, and painting. Volunteers will teach their national songs and dances;
- Volunteers will also be involved in the organization’s activities: distribution of food, school supplies, and provision of clothing;
- Volunteers are encouraged to organize recreational activities for children, such as interactive games, creative workshops, outdoor play, or board games that stimulate both learning and social interaction;
- At the end of the work camp volunteers and children will organize a final concert-performance.

Volunteers will receive certificates at the end of the work camp.

Accommodation:

Volunteers will stay in the building of the Diaconia Charitable Fund, with rooms organized separately for boys and girls.

Participation fee for volunteers from organizations without bilateral exchange with HUJ: 100 €.

For teenage volunteers: 200 €. Teenage volunteers will be met and seen off regardless of their arrival time.

Address: Huysi Avan Residential Area (*Village of Hope*), Ashtarak Highway, Yerevan.

In Armenian: Հույսի Ավան թաղամաս, Աշտարակի խճուղի Չավթաշեն վարչ. Շրջան, Երևան.



HUJ 6

HOPESHINE

Dates:

April – June or September – December, 12 days

Dates must be arranged with the partner organization

Work:

RENO/CULT/KIDS

Language:

English

No. of participants:

15-25 volunteers

Location:

Yerevan School N 14

This work camp is already very popular and traditional. The school was established in 1939 in Yerevan and is the only one in Armenia where education is organized using the Braille system. Most children live at the school during the school year and return home only for holidays. The school provides secondary education. Between 2014 and 2025, volunteers have renovated classrooms, halls, benches, painted walls, and improved the school territory.

Work:

The aim of this work camp is to carry out renovation tasks, including painting classroom walls, as well as maintaining and improving the school territory to enhance the learning environment for the children.

In the second half of the day, volunteers will play and organize interactive activities with the children.

Volunteers are encouraged to create games and activities, assist the children with learning tasks, and play outdoor games to help develop teamwork and cooperation skills.

At the end of the work camp, volunteers and children will organize a final concert-performance.

Volunteers will receive certificates at the end of the work camp.

Accommodation:

Volunteers will stay in the school dormitories.

Beds, mattresses, and linen will be provided.

Participation fee for volunteers from organizations without bilateral exchange with HUJ: 100 €.

For teenage volunteers: 200 €. Teenage volunteers will be met and seen off regardless of their arrival time.

Address: Mamikonyants street,31, 0051, Yerevan, Armenia

In Armenian: Մամիկոնյանց փողոց 31, 0051, Երևան.



HUJ 7

Dates:

HELP FOR CHANGE

July, for 12 days

Dates must be arranged with the partner organization

Work:

KIDS/CULT/ENVI

Language:

English

No. of participants:

15-25 volunteers

Location:

“Village of Hope” district, Yerevan

The Diaconia Charitable Fund is an Armenian NGO established in 1988 by the Armenian Relief Society in Germany to provide humanitarian aid following the devastating earthquake in Armenia. Today, the Fund’s “Village of Hope” carries out social projects, including building homes for families and implementing educational and development initiatives to support socially vulnerable families.

Work:

During the work camp, volunteers will work with children from socially vulnerable families living in the vicinity of the Diaconia Charitable Fund. The main activities include:

- In the morning, volunteers will be involved in maintenance work and territory cleanup;
- After lunch, they will organize cultural development programs for children from socially vulnerable families, such as singing, dancing, and painting. Volunteers will teach their national songs and dances;
- Volunteers will also be involved in the organization’s activities: distribution of food, school supplies, and provision of clothing;
- Volunteers are encouraged to organize recreational activities for children, such as interactive games, creative workshops, outdoor play, or board games that stimulate both learning and social interaction;
- At the end of the work camp volunteers and children will organize a final concert-performance.

Volunteers will receive certificates at the end of the work camp.

Accommodation:

Volunteers will stay in the building of the Diaconia Charitable Fund, with rooms organized separately for boys and girls.

Participation fee for volunteers from organizations without bilateral exchange with HUJ: 100 €.

For teenage volunteers: 200 €. Teenage volunteers will be met and seen off regardless of their arrival time.

Address: Huysi Avan Residential Area (*Village of Hope*), Ashtarak Highway, Yerevan.

In Armenian: Հույսի Ավան թաղամաս, Աշտարակի խճուղի Չավթաշեն վարչ. Շրջան, Երևան.

ESC projects of HUI in Armenia

| Project | Description | Tasks | Number of volunteers |
|------------------------------------|--|---|----------------------|
| National Gallery of Armenia | The National Gallery of Armenia, founded in 1921, is the country's main art museum with 40,000 artworks. It preserves and promotes Armenian and world art, organizes exhibitions, and runs educational programs for children. Volunteers support the gallery's cultural, educational, and promotional activities. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assist guided tours and presentations. - Help with children's educational programs. - Support promotional events and social media. - Take part in gallery events and workshops. | 1 |
| History Museum of Armenia | The History Museum of Armenia, founded in 1919, holds around 400,000 objects showcasing Armenia's history from prehistoric times to the present. It preserves national heritage, hosts exhibitions, and offers educational programs. Volunteers support visitor services, events, education, and promotional activities. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Collect visitor feedback and assist with museum services. - Help organize events and exhibitions. - Support children's educational programs. - Assist with PR, social media, and promotional work. | 1 |
| HUI Office | At the HUI-office, volunteers work with Armenia's long-standing voluntary service organization, supporting youth projects, Erasmus+ initiatives, and international work camps. They join the HUI team, gain experience in volunteering coordination, and contribute to promoting volunteer opportunities. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prepare and share information, give presentations, and run workshops. - Create content for social media and the website. - Support training and activities for camp leaders and local volunteers. - Help organize and co-animate international work camps. | 2 |
| Botanical Garden | The Botanical Garden of Yerevan preserves Armenia's rich plant collection, including 750 species and many rare and endemic plants. Volunteers help maintain the garden, support educational activities, and participate in workshops and research. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assist in garden maintenance: weeding, irrigation, and tree care. - Support workshops and environmental education for visitors. - Participate in paleobotany research. - Write articles and help with promotional activities. | 1 |

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|---|---|---|---|
| Diaconia | Diaconia Charitable Foundation supports socially vulnerable families in Armenia, offering housing, education, and cultural programs. Volunteers help children, assist in community projects, and support the foundation's educational and outreach activities. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Organize cultural and recreational programs for children. - Assist in renovations and district maintenance. - Help distribute food, clothing, and school supplies. - Visit families, take photos, and participate in summer work camps. - Teach national songs and dances for events. | 2 |
| World Wide Fund For Nature (WWF) Armenia | WWF-Armenia, active since 2002, is the country's leading conservation organization, focusing on protecting ecosystems, biodiversity, and promoting environmental awareness. Volunteers support field and office work across WWF projects and partner organizations. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assist in biodiversity monitoring and wildlife data analysis. - Support eco-trail mapping and management. - Work with WWF staff and partner organizations on conservation projects. | 1 |
| Dzer Gitake Kindergarten | The kindergarten's aim is to provide creative, social, intellectual, physical learning with a self-developed program. This program provides children with knowledge of languages (oral language), mathematics, art, music, dance, painting. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Plan the second part of the day of the children - Organize spare time activities for the children - Help to write new projects - Organize performances based on special literacy works - Assist in lesson planning and preparing teaching materials - Help children who need extra support to complete tasks | 2 |
| Muratsan Hospital Complex | Muratsan Hospital supports children with leukemia and related blood disorders, providing treatment, information, and emotional support. Volunteers assist staff and help create a positive, engaging environment for patients. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Play and organize games and activities for children. - Help plan charitable events and entertainment programs. - Organize arts and crafts competitions and game hours. - Promote the foundation's activities through articles and outreach. | 1 |

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| “Zatik” Child Support Center | “Zatik” Child Support Center helps vulnerable children aged 5–15, including street children and those with behavioral or family challenges, providing care, education, and social support. Volunteers contribute to educational and recreational programs. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Organize leisure and creative activities. - Give informal language lessons and help with homework. - Support workshops to develop children’s skills. - Engage children in cultural exchange and everyday learning. | 2 |
| Rehabilitation Center | The Republican Children Rehabilitation Center provides treatment and rehabilitation for children with chronic skeletal and neuromuscular conditions. Volunteers support children’s physical, educational, and creative development while promoting cultural exchange and social integration. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Organize leisure, sports, and creative activities for children aged 4–15. - Assist with homework and interactive lessons. - Support workshops, cultural evenings, and parent discussions. - Participate in staff seminars and learn rehabilitation methods. | 2 |
| Arabkir Medical Center | Arabkir Medical Center is Armenia’s largest pediatric facility, providing medical, rehabilitation, and emergency services to children. Volunteers support children’s creative, educational, and recreational activities while contributing ideas for programs and events. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assist in arts and crafts, music, and dance workshops. - Teach basic foreign language classes. - Organize cultural presentations, excursions, and outdoor activities. - Lead sports, thematic evenings, and interactive workshops for children | 2 |
| N14 School for Children with visual impairments | School N14 educates blind and visually impaired children using the Braille system, providing academic, artistic, and professional training. Volunteers support children’s learning, creativity, and social development while introducing cultural and language experiences. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assist in arts, crafts, music, and dance workshops. - Teach basic foreign language classes. - Organize excursions, sports, thematic evenings, and exhibitions. - Present own culture, organize games, and support children’s social interaction. - Help create promotional materials and support school events. | 1 |

